

ON THE LYAPUNOV QUANTITIES OF TWO-DIMENSIONAL
AUTONOMOUS SYSTEMS OF DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS WITH
A CRITICAL POINT OF CENTRE OR FOCUS TYPE

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Abstract

Analytical two-dimensional system of differential equations with a weak focus are considered. It is shown how by using a given sequence of homogeneous polynomials of even degree one can construct a function with the rate of change along trajectories of system to be a linear combination of these polynomials. The coefficients of this linear combination are the Lyapunov quantities.

1 Introduction

In this paper, we consider the system of differential equations

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = y + P(x, y), \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = -x - Q(x, y), \quad (1.1)$$

where P and Q are holomorphic functions defined in some neighbourhood of $O(0, 0)$, i.e.

$$P(x, y) = \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} p_k(x, y), \quad Q(x, y) = \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} q_k(x, y) \quad (1.2)$$

(p_k, q_k are homogeneous polynomials of degree k). The origin $O(0, 0)$ is either a focus or a centre (i.e. weak focus) for (1.1) [1, 2]. We face the problem of the distinction. Let us survey the classical results concerning this problem: for the infinite system of homogeneous polynomials of even degree

$$\{(x^2 + y^2)^k\}_{k=2}^{\infty}, \quad (1.3)$$

there exists a function

$$U(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 + \sum_{k=3}^{\infty} f_k(x, y),$$

where $f_k(x, y)$ are homogeneous polynomials of degree k , and constants V_1, V_2, \dots , such that

$$\frac{dU}{dt} = \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} V_{k-1}(x^2 + y^2)^k, \quad (1.4)$$

i.e. the derivative of $U(x, y)$ along trajectories of differential system (1.1) is a linear combination of polynomials (1.3). The constants V_1, V_2, \dots , are polynomials in coefficients of (1.1) and are called the Lyapunov quantities. Algorithms of their computation can be found in [3-9]. If all $V_k, k = \overline{1, \infty}$, vanish then the origin $O(0, 0)$ is a centre for (1.1), in the opposite case $O(0, 0)$ is a focus. Let $V_k = 0, k = \overline{1, m-1}$ and $V_m \neq 0$. It follows from

(1.4) that the dU/dt is of constant sign in a neighbourhood of the origin and of the same as V_m . The origin $O(0,0)$ is asymptotically stable if $V_m < 0$ and asymptotically unstable if $V_m > 0$.

It should be observed here the following properties of polynomials (1.3):

- 1) the even degree;
- 2) the integral of them taken along the unit circle is not equal to zero;
- 3) the constant sign.

In this paper it will be shown that condition 3) can be neglected in some cases. Let us consider arbitrary system of polynomials $(\psi_{2k}(x, y))_{k=1}^{\infty}$ instead of (1.3), satisfying the properties 1) and 2). For such system (1.3) we construct a function $U(x, y)$ with the rate of change along trajectories of (1.1) to be a linear combination of polynomials $\psi_{2k}(x, y)$. The first non-zero coefficient L_m of this linear combination is a Lyapunov's quantity with the same index (up to a non-zero multiplier). This enables us to solve the problem on asymptotic stability of the critical point $O(0,0)$, even if, the total derivative

$$\frac{dU}{dt} = L_m \psi_{2m+2} + L_{m+1} \psi_{2m+4} + \dots$$

can cease to be of the constant sign in some neighbourhood of $O(0,0)$. This happens, for example, if we consider polynomials of even degree $\psi_{2k}(x, y) = (2x^2 - y^2)(x^2 + y^2)^{k-1}$, $k = 1, \infty$, such that

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \psi_{2k}(\cos \varphi, \sin \varphi) d\varphi = \int_0^{2\pi} (2\cos^2 \varphi - \sin^2 \varphi) d\varphi = \pi \neq 0.$$

In the last two sections of this paper a function $\mu(x, y)$ is constructed such that

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} [\mu(y + P)] - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} [\mu(x + Q)] = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \Lambda_k \psi_{2k}(x, y)$$

and the relations between Λ_k and V_k are established.

2 System (1.1) in polar coordinates

Let $x = \rho \cos \varphi$, $y = \rho \sin \varphi$. The system (1.1) in variables ρ, φ looks like

$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} u_k(\varphi) \rho^k, \quad \frac{d\varphi}{dt} = -1 - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} v_k(\varphi) \rho^k, \quad (2.1)$$

where

$$u_k(\varphi) = p_k(\cos \varphi, \sin \varphi) \cos \varphi - q_k(\cos \varphi, \sin \varphi) \sin \varphi, \\ v_k(\varphi) = p_{k+1}(\cos \varphi, \sin \varphi) \sin \varphi + q_{k+1}(\cos \varphi, \sin \varphi) \cos \varphi.$$

The right-hand sides of system (2.1) are holomorphic functions in some neighbourhood of $\rho = 0$ for all $\varphi \in (-\infty, +\infty)$. Replacing system (2.1) by one equation, we get

$$\frac{d\rho}{d\varphi} = -\frac{\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} u_k(\varphi) \rho^k}{1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} v_k(\varphi) \rho^k}. \quad (2.2)$$

The solution of equation (2.2) satisfying the initial condition $\rho = c$ for $\varphi = 0$ can be represented in the form

$$\rho(\varphi, c) = c + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} h_k(\varphi) c^k. \quad (2.3)$$

Moreover, this series and its derivative are uniformly convergent in some domain $0 \leq \varphi \leq 2\pi$, $0 \leq c \leq c_0$ ($c_0 > 0$). Furthermore, the functions $h_2(\varphi), h_3(\varphi), \dots$ satisfy the conditions $h_k(0) = 0$, $k = 2, 3, 4, \dots$

The function $\rho(c) = \rho(2\pi, c) = c + g_2 c^2 + g_3 c^3 + \dots$, where $g_k = h_k(2\pi)$, is called the return map on $0 \leq c \leq c_0$ of the positive semi-axis Ox . The coefficients g_k , $k = 2, 3, 4, \dots$ of the return map are called the focal values. The index of the first nonvanishing focal value is necessarily odd [1]. If there exists such a number m that $g_{2m+1} \neq 0$ then the critical point $O(0, 0)$ is a focus. In the opposite case $O(0, 0)$ is a centre.

3 System (1.1) in complex variables

Let

$$Q(x, y) = \sum_{j \in A} a_j x^j y^j, \quad P(x, y) = \sum_{j \in A} b_j x^j y^j, \quad (3.1)$$

where a_j, b_j are real numbers and A is a set of different nonnegative integer numbers. Let us denote $w = x + iy$, $i^2 = -1$. Then

$$x = (\bar{w} + w)/2, \quad y = i(\bar{w} - w)/2 \quad (3.2)$$

and

$$Q + iP = \sum_{j \in A} v_j x^j y^j = \sum_{j \in A} 2^{-j-1} z_j \bar{w}^j w^j \quad (v_j = a_j + ib_j), \quad (3.3)$$

The following relations [3, page 20, 21]

$$z_{n-j} = \sum_{l=0}^n i^l R_{jl}^{(n)} v_{n-l}, \quad (3.4)$$

$$2^n i^l v_{n-l} = \sum_{j=0}^n R_{jl}^{(n)} z_{n-j}, \quad (3.5)$$

between the coefficients z_j and v_j hold, where

$$R_{jl}^{(n)} = \sum_{\sigma} (-1)^{\sigma} \binom{l}{\sigma} \binom{n-l}{j-\sigma}. \quad (3.6)$$

The summation is over all integers σ , which satisfy the conditions $0 \leq \sigma \leq l$, $0 \leq j - \sigma \leq n - l$ and $\binom{l}{\sigma}$ denotes the binomial coefficients, i.e. $\binom{l}{\sigma} = \frac{l!}{\sigma!(l-\sigma)!}$. The number $R_{jl}^{(n)}$ represents the coefficient by v^j in expression $(1-t)^l(1+t)^{n-l}$. It is known that

$$R_{n-j}^{(n)} = (-1)^j R_{jl}^{(n)}. \quad (3.7)$$

Let $z_{n-j} = C_j^{(n)} + iB_j^{(n)}$, $a_j = b_j$, $a_j^* = c_j$ if l is even and $a_j = c_j$, $a_j^* = b_j$ if l is odd. It follows from (3.5) and (3.4) that

$$2^{n+1} b_{n-l} = i^{l+1} \sum_{j=0}^n R_{jl}^{(n)} \left[\bar{z}_{n-j} - (-1)^j z_{n-j} \right], \quad (3.8)$$

$$2^{n+1} c_{n-l} = i^l \sum_{j=0}^n R_{jl}^{(n)} \left[\bar{z}_{n-j} + (-1)^j z_{n-j} \right], \quad (3.9)$$

$$C_j^{(n)} = \sum_{l=0}^n r_{jl}^{(n)} a_{n-l}^*, \quad B_j^{(n)} = \sum_{l=0}^n (-1)^l r_{jl}^{(n)} a_{n-l}^*,$$

where $r_{jl}^{(n)} = (-1)^l \binom{n-l}{j} R_{jl}^{(n)}$ (see [3, page 22, 23]).

Let us take $P = 0$ in (3.3). Then $Q(x, y) = \sum_{j \in \mathbb{N}_A} z^{-j-1} x_j \bar{w}^j w^j$,

$$x_j = x_{0j}. \quad (3.10)$$

Indeed, according to (3.4) and (3.7), we have

$$\begin{aligned} z_{n-j,j} &= \sum_{l=0}^n i^l R_{jl}^{(n)} v_{n-l,j} = \sum_{l=0}^n i^l R_{jl}^{(n)} c_{n-l,j} \\ &= \sum_{l=0}^n (-1)^l i^l R_{jl}^{(n)} c_{n-l,j} = \sum_{l=0}^n i^l R_{n-j,j}^{(n)} c_{n-l,j} = x_{j,n-j}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, by carrying out the change (3.2) in any series (polynomial) $Q(x, y)$ with real coefficients, we obtain the series $Q^*(\bar{w}, w)$. For coefficients of $Q^*(\bar{w}, w)$ the equality (3.10) are fulfilled. It follows from (3.10) that the coefficient x_j by $\bar{w}^j w^j$ is a real number. The converse statement is also known to be true, i.e., if the coefficients of the series (polynomial) $Q^*(\bar{w}, w)$ satisfy the equality (3.10), then replacing in $Q^*(\bar{w}, w)$ \bar{w} by $x - iy$ and w by $x + iy$, $i^2 = -1$, we obtain a series in x and y with real coefficients.

Let $Q(x, y)$ be a homogeneous polynomial of degree $2k$ with real coefficients and

$$Q_{2k}^*(\bar{w}, w) = Q_{2k} \left(\frac{\bar{w} + w}{2}, \frac{i(\bar{w} - w)}{2} \right) = z^{-2k} \sum_{j+i=2k} x_{ji} \bar{w}^j w^i.$$

Then

$$\int_0^{2\pi} Q_{2k}(\cos \varphi, \sin \varphi) d\varphi = z^{-2k+1} \pi x_{kk}.$$

Let us consider the following three particular cases:

1) $Q_{2k}(x, y) = (x^2 + y^2)^k$. In this case $Q_{2k}^*(\bar{w}, w) = \bar{w}^k w^k$. Therefore $x_{kk} = z^{2k}$ and

$$\int_0^{2\pi} (\cos^2 \varphi + \sin^2 \varphi)^k d\varphi = z^{-2k+1} \pi z^{2k} = 2\pi.$$

2) $Q_{2k}(x, y) = x^{2k}$. Assuming in (3.4) that $\pi = 2k$, $v_{2k,0} = 1$, $v_{2k-l,j} = 0$ for $l \neq 0$, we get $x_{kk} = R_{k,0}^{(2k)}$. From (3.6) $R_{k,0}^{(2k)} = \binom{2k}{k} = \frac{(2k)!}{k!k!}$. Consequently

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{2\pi} \cos^{2k} \varphi d\varphi &= z^{-2k+1} \pi \frac{(2k)!}{k!k!} = \frac{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdots (2k-1) \cdot 2k}{2^{2k} k! k!} 2\pi \\ &= \frac{2^k k! (2k-1)!!}{2^k k! 2^k k!} 2\pi = \frac{(2k-1)!!}{(2k)!!} 2\pi. \end{aligned}$$

3) $Q_{2k}(x, y) = y^{2k}$. From (3.4) and (3.6) we have, that

$$x_{kk} = (-1)^k R_{k,2k}^{(2k)} = (-1)^k (-1)^k \binom{2k}{k} = \frac{(2k)!}{k!k!}.$$

Then

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \sin^{2k} \varphi d\varphi = \frac{(2k-1)!!}{(2k)!!} 2\pi.$$

Let $A = (2, 3, 4, 5, \dots)$. Taking into account (3.1), the system (1.1) can be written in the form

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = y + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} b_j x^j y^j, \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = -x + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} c_j x^j y^j \quad (3.11)$$

In complex variables $w = z + iy$, $i^2 = -1$, system (3.11) becomes (see (3.3))

$$i \frac{dw}{dt} = w + \sum_{r=2}^{\infty} \varphi_r \left(i \frac{dw}{dt} = -\bar{w} - \sum_{r=2}^{\infty} \bar{\varphi}_r \right), \quad (3.12)$$

where

$$\varphi_r = \sum_{j+l=r} 2^{-j-l} x_j^j \bar{w}^l w^j. \quad (3.13)$$

The coefficients b_j , c_j and x_j satisfy the relations (3.4), (3.5), (3.8) and (3.9).

If $A = \{2, 3\}$ then (3.11) looks as

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dx}{dt} &= y + ax^2 + cxy + fy^2 + kx^3 + mx^2y + px^2y + ry^3, \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= -(x + gx^2 + dxy + by^2 + sx^3 + qx^2y + nxy^2 + iy^3), \end{aligned} \quad (3.14)$$

and the corresponding equation (3.12) is

$$i \frac{dw}{dt} = w + \frac{1}{4}(x_{20}\bar{w}^2 + x_{11}\bar{w}w + x_{02}w^2) + \frac{1}{8}(x_{30}\bar{w}^3 + x_{21}\bar{w}^2w + x_{12}\bar{w}w^2 + x_{03}w^3), \quad (3.15)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} x_{20} &= c_{20} - b_{11} - c_{02} + i(b_{20} + c_{11} - b_{02}), \\ x_{11} &= 2(c_{21} + c_{02}) + 2i(b_{20} + b_{02}), \\ x_{02} &= c_{20} + b_{11} - c_{02} + i(b_{20} - c_{11} - b_{02}), \\ x_{30} &= c_{30} - b_{21} - c_{12} + i(b_{30} + c_{21} - b_{12} - c_{03}), \\ x_{21} &= 3c_{30} - b_{21} + c_{12} - 3b_{03} + i(3b_{20} + c_{21} + b_{12} + 3c_{03}), \\ x_{12} &= 3c_{30} + b_{21} + c_{12} + 3b_{03} + i(3b_{20} - c_{21} + b_{12} - 3c_{03}), \\ x_{03} &= c_{30} + b_{21} - c_{12} - b_{03} + i(b_{30} - c_{21} - b_{12} + c_{03}). \end{aligned}$$

It should be pointed out that, in general, the problem of determining when a differential system (3.14) has a centre at a singular point is open. The problem of centre is completely solved only in the cases when the right-hand sides of system (3.14) contain either only quadratic or only cubic terms (see [3]). If the right-hand sides of (3.14) contain both quadratic and cubic terms then the abovementioned problem is solved only in some particular cases (see, for example, [9-21]).

4 Construction of the function $U(x, y)$

Let $\psi_{2k}(x, y)$, $k = 2, 3, 4, \dots$ be real homogeneous polynomials of degree $2k$, such that

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \psi_{2k}(\cos \varphi, \sin \varphi) d\varphi \neq 0 \quad \forall k. \quad (4.1)$$

Theorem 4.1 *There exists a formal power series*

$$U(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 + f_3(x, y) + f_4(x, y) + \dots \quad (4.2)$$

and constants L_{2k} , $k = \overline{1, \infty}$, such that the rate of change of U along trajectories of (1.1) (or (3.11)) is

$$\frac{dU}{dt} = \frac{\partial U}{\partial x}(Y + P) - \frac{\partial U}{\partial y}(X + Q) = \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} L_{2k-1} \psi_{2k}(x, y). \quad (4.3)$$

To prove this statement we pass to complex variables ($w = x + iy$, $i^2 = -1$). Let us put

$$F_{k+1}(\bar{w}, w) = f_{k+1}\left(\frac{\bar{w} + w}{2}, \frac{i(\bar{w} - w)}{2}\right), \quad \Psi_{2k}(\bar{w}, w) = \psi_{2k}\left(\frac{\bar{w} + w}{2}, \frac{i(\bar{w} - w)}{2}\right),$$

$$F(\bar{w}, w) = U\left(\frac{\bar{w} + w}{2}, \frac{i(\bar{w} - w)}{2}\right) = \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} F_k(\bar{w}, w), \quad F_k(\bar{w}, w) = \bar{w}w, \quad k = \overline{2, \infty}.$$

If

$$F_k(\bar{w}, w) = \sum_{j+l=k} a_{jl} \bar{w}^j w^l, \quad k = 2, 3, \dots, \quad (4.4)$$

($a_{20} = a_{11} - 1 = a_{02} = 0$), then $F(\bar{w}, w) = \bar{w}w + \sum_{j+l=3}^{\infty} a_{jl} \bar{w}^j w^l$ and $a_{jl} = a_{lj}$. We shall assume that

$$\Psi_{2k}(\bar{w}, w) = \sum_{j+l=2k} \psi_{jl} \bar{w}^j w^l, \quad \bar{\psi}_{jl} = \psi_{lj}. \quad (4.5)$$

In new variables the system (4.3) can be written in the form (see (3.12)):

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dU}{dt} &= \frac{dF}{dt} = F'_{\bar{w}} \frac{d\bar{w}}{dt} + F'_w \frac{dw}{dt} = \left(\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} F'_{k\bar{w}} \right) \left(i\bar{w} + i \sum_{r=2}^{\infty} \bar{\varphi}_r \right) - \\ &\quad \left(\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} F'_{kw} \right) \left(iw + i \sum_{r=2}^{\infty} \varphi_r \right) = \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} L_{2k-1} \Psi_{2k}(\bar{w}, w). \end{aligned}$$

This implies that

$$\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left[F'_{k\bar{w}} \left(\bar{w} + \sum_{r=2}^{\infty} \bar{\varphi}_r \right) - F'_{kw} \left(w + \sum_{r=2}^{\infty} \varphi_r \right) \right] = - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} L_{2k-1} \Psi_{2k}(\bar{w}, w).$$

Identifying the terms of degree k in \bar{w} and w in the last identity, we get

$$\bar{w} F'_{k\bar{w}} - w F'_{kw} = \sum_{r=2}^{k-1} \left(F'_{r\bar{w}} \bar{\varphi}_{k-r+1} - F'_{r\bar{w}} \bar{\varphi}_{k-r+1} \right)$$

if k is odd ($k = 3, 5, 7, \dots$) and

$$\bar{w} F'_{k\bar{w}} - w F'_{kw} = \sum_{r=2}^{k-1} \left(F'_{r\bar{w}} \bar{\varphi}_{k-r+1} - F'_{r\bar{w}} \bar{\varphi}_{k-r+1} \right) - i L_{k-1} \Psi_k(\bar{w}, w)$$

if k is even ($k = 4, 6, 8, \dots$). Now identifying the coefficients of \bar{w} and w , we obtain (see (4.4), (3.13), (4.5)) that

$$(j-1)a_{jl} = 2^{-j-1} \sum_{p+q=2}^{j+l-1} 2^{p+q-1} a(a_{pq} \bar{\pi}_{j-p, j-q+1} - \bar{a}_{pq} \bar{\pi}_{l-p, j-q+1}) \quad (4.6)$$

if $j+l$ is odd and

$$(j-l)\alpha_{jl} = 2^{-j-l} \sum_{p+q=2}^{j+l-1} 2^{p+q-1} q (\alpha_{pq} z_j - \beta_{pq} \bar{z}_j - \alpha_{q+1} z_{j-1} + \beta_{q+1} \bar{z}_{j-1}) - i L_{l-1} \psi_{jl} \quad (4.7)$$

if $j+l$ is even. If $j=l$, then it follows from (4.7) that

$$2^{-2l+1} i l m \sum_{p+q=2}^{2l-1} 2^{p+q-1} q \alpha_{pq} z_l - \beta_{pq} \bar{z}_l - \alpha_{q+1} z_{l-1} + \beta_{q+1} \bar{z}_{l-1} = 0.$$

This implies that

$$L_{l-1} = 2^{-2l+1} \psi_{2l}^{-1} i m \sum_{\substack{p+q=2 \\ (p \leq l, q \leq l+1)}}^{2l-1} 2^{p+q-1} q \alpha_{pq} z_l - \beta_{pq} \bar{z}_l - \alpha_{q+1} z_{l-1} + \beta_{q+1} \bar{z}_{l-1} \quad (l=2, 3, 4, \dots). \quad (4.8)$$

Assume that the coefficients α_{ij} , $i=2, 3, 4, \dots$, take on arbitrary real values. The formulas (4.6), (4.8) and (4.7) allow us to determine step by step coefficients of the function $F(\bar{w}, w)$ and hence the coefficients of the function (4.2). Thus, taking into account that $\alpha_{20} = \alpha_{21} - 1 = \alpha_{22} = 0$, from (4.6) for $j+l=3$, we find that

$$\alpha_{30} = \frac{1}{12} z_{20}, \quad \alpha_{31} = \frac{1}{4} (z_{11} - \bar{z}_{02}), \quad \alpha_{32} = \frac{1}{4} (\bar{z}_{12} - z_{02}), \quad \alpha_{33} = \frac{1}{12} \bar{z}_{20},$$

and from (4.8) when $l=2$ we find

$$L_1 = 2^{-3} \psi_{22}^{-2} i m (2z_{12} - z_{11} z_{02}). \quad (4.9)$$

Hence, the function $F(\bar{w}, w)$ is formally found up to the terms of the form $\alpha_{ij} \bar{w}^i w^j$ ($i=2, 3, 4, \dots$). Usually, it is supposed that $\alpha_{ij} = 0$ ($i=2, 3, 4, \dots$).

The values $L_1, L_2, \dots, L_n, \dots$ will be called the Lyapunov's quantities or L -values corresponding to the system of homogeneous polynomials $\{\psi_{2k}(x, y), k=2, 3, 4, \dots\}$.

Note that equality (4.8) for $\psi_{2k}(x, y) = (x^2 + y^2)^k$, $k=2, \infty$, becomes

$$V_{l-1} = 2^{-2l+1} i m \sum_{\substack{p+q=2 \\ (p \leq l, q \leq l+1)}}^{2l-1} 2^{p+q-1} q \alpha_{pq} z_l - \beta_{pq} \bar{z}_l - \alpha_{q+1} z_{l-1} + \beta_{q+1} \bar{z}_{l-1} \quad (l=2, 3, 4, \dots). \quad (4.10)$$

5 Relation between L -values and focal values

Let us take function (4.2) satisfying (4.3) with $L_k = 0$ for $k < l-2$ and $L_{l-1} \neq 0$, and construct the polynomial (see [21, page 14-15])

$$U_1(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} f_k(x, y).$$

The derivative of the polynomial $U_1(x, y)$ along orbits of system (1.1) (\equiv (3.11)) is

$$\frac{dU_1}{dt} = L_{l-1} \psi_{2l}(x, y) + \varphi_1(x, y),$$

where $\varphi_1(x, y)$ is a holomorphic function in some neighbourhood of $O(0, 0)$ and $\varphi_1(x, y) = o((x^2 + y^2)^l)$ as $x^2 + y^2 \rightarrow 0$. Using polar coordinates ρ, φ , we obtain

$$U_1(\rho \cos \varphi, \rho \sin \varphi) = \rho^2 + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} f_k(\rho \cos \varphi, \rho \sin \varphi)$$

and by (2.1)

$$\frac{dU_1}{d\varphi} = \frac{dU_1}{dt} \frac{dt}{d\varphi} = \left[\rho^{2l} L_{l-1} \psi_{2l}(\cos\varphi, \sin\varphi) + \omega_1(\rho \cos\varphi, \sin\varphi) \right] \times \left[-1 - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} v_k(\varphi) \rho^k \right]^{-1}. \quad (5.1)$$

Let (2.3) be solution of (2.2) with initial condition $\rho(0, c) = c$. By substituting this solution in (5.1) and integrating (5.1) with respect to φ from 0 to 2π , we find that

$$\begin{aligned} \rho^2(2\pi, c) - \rho^2(0, c) + \sum_{k=0}^{2l} \left\{ f_k[\rho(2\pi, c), 0] - f_k[\rho(0, c), 0] \right\} &\equiv \\ \equiv \int_0^{2\pi} \left\{ -L_{l-1} \psi_{2l}(\cos\varphi, \sin\varphi) \left[c + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} h_k(\varphi) c^k \right]^{2l} + \dots \right\} d\varphi. \end{aligned} \quad (5.2)$$

Since the right-hand side of the identity (5.2) (with respect to c) is $-L_{l-1} \psi_{2l} c^{2l} + \dots$ and is different from zero for small c , then as it is seen from the expression of left-hand side of (5.2) $\rho(2\pi, c) \neq \rho(0, c) = c$. So, there exists such m , that $h_2(2\pi) = h_3(2\pi) = \dots = h_{m-1}(2\pi) = 0$ and $h_m(2\pi) \neq 0$. Let us write the identity (5.2) as

$$\begin{aligned} (c + h_m(2\pi)c^m + \dots)^2 - c^2 + \sum_{k=3}^{2l} \left\{ f_k[c + h_m(2\pi)c^m + \dots, 0] - f_k(c, 0) \right\} &\equiv \\ \equiv -2\pi L_{l-1} \psi_{2l} c^{2l} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

or

$$2h_m(2\pi)c^{m+1} + \dots \equiv -2\pi L_{l-1} \psi_{2l} c^{2l} + \dots$$

This implies that $m = 2l - 1$ and $h_{2l-1}(2\pi) = -\pi L_{l-1} \psi_{2l}$. Now, taking into account that $g_{2l-1} = h_{2l-1}(2\pi)$ is the $(2l - 1)$ -th focal value and using the above results, it is easy to see that the first nonvanishing focal value has an odd index.

Thus, if the first $l - 2$ ($l \geq 2$) of L -values vanish and the $(l - 1)$ -th one is different from zero, then the first $2l - 2$ focal values also vanish and the $(2l - 1)$ -th one is different from zero. The converse statement follows from the same identity (5.2). Moreover, between L_{l-1} and g_{2l-1} there exists the following relation

$$g_{2l-1} = -\pi L_{l-1} \psi_{2l}. \quad (5.3)$$

In the case, when $\psi_{2k}(x, y) = (x^2 + y^2)^k$ ($\psi_{2k}(x, y) = x^{2k}$ or $\psi_{2k}(x, y) = y^{2k}$), $k = 2, 3, 4, \dots$, we get

$$g_{2l-1} = -\pi L_{l-1} \left(g_{2l-1} = -\frac{(2l-1)!!}{(2l)!!} \pi L_{l-1} \right).$$

Thus, we arrive at the following conclusion: the existence of a centre at the origin for (1.1) is equivalent to the vanishing of all L -values. From (4.8) we obtain the following centre conditions

$$Im \sum_{j=q+2}^{2l-1} 2^{j+q-1} a_{2q, 2l-j, l-j+1} = 0 \quad (l = 2, 3, \dots). \quad (5.4)$$

For the cubic system (3.14) (equation (3.15)) the conditions (5.4) look as:

$$\begin{aligned} Im \left[2(l+1)a_{l-2, l+1} z_{20} + 2l a_{l-1, l} z_{11} + 2(l-1)a_{l-1} z_{20} + (l+1)a_{l-2, l+1} z_{30} + \right. \\ \left. + i a_{l-2, l} z_{21} + (l-1)a_{l-1, l-1} z_{12} + (l-2)a_{l-2} z_{20} \right] = 0 \quad (l = 2, 3, \dots), \end{aligned}$$

where $a_{30} = a_{10} = a_{01} = a_{20} = a_{11} - 1 = a_{02} = 0$; $a_{\alpha\beta} = 0$ by $\alpha < 0$ or $\beta < 0$; $a_{\beta\beta} = 0$ by $\beta > 1$ and (see (4.6), (4.7))

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_{\alpha\beta} = & \frac{1}{8(\alpha - \beta)} \left[2(\beta + 1)a_{\alpha-2, \beta+1}x_{20} + 2\beta a_{\alpha-1, \beta}x_{11} + 2(\beta - 1)a_{\alpha, \beta-1}x_{02} \right. \\
 & + (\beta + 1)a_{\alpha-3, \beta+1}x_{30} + \beta a_{\alpha-2, \beta}x_{21} + (\beta - 1)a_{\alpha-1, \beta-1}x_{12} \\
 & + (\beta - 2)a_{\alpha, \beta-2}x_{03} - 2(\alpha + 1)a_{\alpha+1, \beta-2}x_{20} - 2\alpha a_{\alpha, \beta-1}x_{11} \\
 & - 2(\alpha - 1)a_{\alpha-1, \beta}x_{02} - (\alpha + 1)a_{\alpha+1, \beta-3}x_{30} - \alpha a_{\alpha, \beta-2}x_{21} \\
 & \left. - (\alpha - 1)a_{\alpha-1, \beta-1}x_{12} - (\alpha - 2)a_{\alpha-2, \beta}x_{03} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

by $\alpha + \beta = 3, 4, \dots$, $\alpha \geq 0$, $\beta \geq 0$, $\alpha \neq \beta$.

In the case, when four coefficients of equation (3.15) are equal to zero, the problem of a centre is solved [20]. Let us tabulate this result.

No	Zero coefficients of the equation (3.15)	Necessary and sufficient conditions of existence a centre
1	2	3
1	$x_{30} = x_{21} = x_{12} = x_{03} = 0$	a) $Im(x_{11}x_{02}) = Im(x_{20}x_{11}^2) = 0$ or b) $x_{11}(x_{11} - 2x_{03}) = 0$ or c) $x_{03} + 2x_{11} = x_{20}x_{20} - x_{11}x_{21} = 0$.
2	$x_{02} = x_{21} = x_{12} = x_{03} = 0$	$Im(x_{20}x_{11}^2) = x_{11}Im(x_{20}^2x_{30}^2) = Im(x_{21}^2x_{30}) = 0$
3	$x_{02} = x_{30} = x_{12} = x_{03} = 0$	$Im(x_{20}x_{11}^2) = Im(x_{20}^2x_{11}^2) = x_{20}Im(x_{11}^2x_{21}) = 0$
4	$x_{02} = x_{30} = x_{21} = x_{03} = 0$	$Im(x_{20}x_{11}^2) = Im(x_{12}) = 0$
5	$x_{02} = x_{30} = x_{21} = x_{12} = 0$	$Im(x_{20}x_{11}^2) = Im(x_{20}^2x_{11}^2) = Im(x_{11}^2x_{21}) = 0$
6	$x_{11} = x_{21} = x_{12} = x_{03} = 0$	$x_{30}Im(x_{20}x_{02}^2) = x_{02}Im(x_{20}^2x_{30}^2) = Im(x_{12}^2x_{30}) = 0$
7	$x_{11} = x_{30} = x_{12} = x_{03} = 0$	$x_{21}Im(x_{20}x_{12}^2) = Im(x_{20}^2x_{12}^2) = Im(x_{02}^2x_{21}) = 0$
8	$x_{11} = x_{30} = x_{21} = x_{03} = 0$	a) $x_{12} = 0$ or b) $Im(x_{20}x_{02}^2) = Im(x_{12}) = 0$
9	$x_{11} = x_{30} = x_{21} = x_{12} = 0$	$x_{03}Im(x_{20}x_{12}^2) = Im(x_{20}^2x_{03}^2) = x_{20}Im(x_{02}^2x_{03}) = 0$
10	$x_{20} = x_{21} = x_{12} = x_{03} = 0$	a) $x_{11} - 2x_{03} = 0$ or b) $Im(x_{11}x_{02}) = Im(x_{11}^2x_{30}) = Im(x_{02}^2x_{30}) = 0$
11	$x_{20} = x_{30} = x_{12} = x_{03} = 0$	$Im(x_{11}x_{02}) = x_{02}Im(x_{11}^2x_{21}) = Im(x_{02}^2x_{21}) = 0$
12	$x_{20} = x_{30} = x_{21} = x_{03} = 0$	a) $x_{11}x_{02} - 2x_{12} = 0$ or b) $Im(x_{11}x_{02}) = Im(x_{12}) = 0$
13	$x_{20} = x_{30} = x_{21} = x_{03} = 0$	a) $2x_{11} - x_{02} = 0$ or b) $Im(x_{11}x_{02}) = Im(x_{11}^2x_{03}) = x_{11}Im(x_{02}^2x_{03}) = 0$
14	$x_{11} = x_{02} = x_{12} = x_{03} = 0$	$x_{21}Im(x_{20}^2x_{30}^2) = Im(x_{20}^2x_{21}^2) = Im(x_{30}^2x_{11}^2) = 0$
15	$x_{11} = x_{02} = x_{21} = x_{03} = 0$	$Im(x_{12}) = 0$

1	2	3
16	$x_{11} = x_{02} = x_{21} = x_{12} = 0$	$x_{03} \operatorname{Im}(x_{20}^4 \bar{x}_{30}^2) = \operatorname{Im}(x_{20}^2 \bar{x}_{03}^2)$ $= \operatorname{Im}(x_{30} \bar{x}_{03}^2) = 0$
17	$x_{11} = x_{02} = x_{30} = x_{03} = 0$	$\operatorname{Im}(x_{20}^2 \bar{x}_{21}^2) = \operatorname{Im}(x_{12}) = 0$
18	$x_{11} = x_{02} = x_{30} = x_{12} = 0$	a) $(\bar{x}_{21} - 3x_{03})(\bar{x}_{21} + x_{03}) = 0$ or b) $\operatorname{Im}(x_{20}^2 \bar{x}_{21}^2) = \operatorname{Im}(x_{20}^2 \bar{x}_{03}^2)$ $= \operatorname{Im}(x_{21} x_{03}) = 0$
19	$x_{11} = x_{02} = x_{30} = x_{21} = 0$	$\operatorname{Im}(x_{20}^2 \bar{x}_{03}^2) = \operatorname{Im}(x_{12}) = 0$
20	$x_{20} = x_{02} = x_{12} = x_{03} = 0$	$\operatorname{Im}(x_{11}^4 \bar{x}_{20}) = x_{30} \operatorname{Im}(x_{11}^2 \bar{x}_{21})$ $= \operatorname{Im}(x_{30} \bar{x}_{21}^2) = 0$
21	$x_{20} = x_{02} = x_{21} = x_{03} = 0$	$\operatorname{Im}(x_{11}^4 \bar{x}_{30}) = \operatorname{Im}(x_{12}) = 0$
22	$x_{20} = x_{02} = x_{21} = x_{12} = 0$	$\operatorname{Im}(x_{11}^4 \bar{x}_{30}) = \operatorname{Im}(x_{11}^2 x_{03})$ $= \operatorname{Im}(x_{20} x_{03}^2) = 0$
23	$x_{20} = x_{02} = x_{30} = x_{03} = 0$	$\operatorname{Im}(x_{12}) = 0$
24	$x_{20} = x_{02} = x_{30} = x_{12} = 0$	$x_{03} \operatorname{Im}(x_{11}^2 \bar{x}_{21}) = \operatorname{Im}(x_{11}^2 x_{03})$ $= \operatorname{Im}(x_{21} x_{03}) = 0$
25	$x_{20} = x_{02} = x_{30} = x_{21} = 0$	$\operatorname{Im}(x_{11}^2 \bar{x}_{03}) = \operatorname{Im}(x_{12}) = 0$
26	$x_{30} = x_{11} = x_{12} = x_{03} = 0$	$\operatorname{Im}(x_{02}^4 \bar{x}_{30}) = \operatorname{Im}(x_{02}^4 x_{21})$ $= \operatorname{Im}(x_{30} \bar{x}_{21}^2) = 0$
27	$x_{20} = x_{11} = x_{21} = x_{03} = 0$	$\operatorname{Im}(x_{02}^4 \bar{x}_{30}) = \operatorname{Im}(x_{12}) = 0$
28	$x_{20} = x_{11} = x_{21} = x_{12} = 0$	$\operatorname{Im}(x_{02}^4 \bar{x}_{30}) = x_{30} \operatorname{Im}(x_{02}^2 \bar{x}_{03})$ $= \operatorname{Im}(x_{21} x_{03}^2) = 0$
29	$x_{21} = x_{11} = x_{30} = x_{03} = 0$	$\operatorname{Im}(x_{02}^2 \bar{x}_{21}) = \operatorname{Im}(x_{12}) = 0$
30	$x_{20} = x_{11} = x_{30} = x_{12} = 0$	a) $\bar{x}_{21} + x_{03} = 0$ or b) $\operatorname{Im}(x_{02}^2 \bar{x}_{21}) = x_{21} \operatorname{Im}(x_{02}^2 \bar{x}_{03})$ $= \operatorname{Im}(x_{21} x_{03}) = 0$
31	$x_{20} = x_{11} = x_{30} = x_{21} = 0$	a) $x_{12} = 0$ or b) $\operatorname{Im}(x_{02}^2 \bar{x}_{21}) = \operatorname{Im}(x_{12}) = 0$
32	$x_{20} = x_{11} = x_{02} = x_{03} = 0$	$\operatorname{Im}(x_{30} \bar{x}_{21}^2) = \operatorname{Im}(x_{12}) = 0$
33	$x_{20} = x_{11} = x_{02} = x_{12} = 0$	a) $\operatorname{Im}(x_{21} \bar{x}_{03}) = \operatorname{Im}(x_{30} \bar{x}_{21}^2) = 0$ or b) $x_{21} - 3x_{03} = 0$ or c) $x_{03} + 3x_{21} = x_{30} \bar{x}_{30} - x_{21} \bar{x}_{21} = 0$.
34	$x_{20} = x_{11} = x_{02} = x_{21} = 0$	$\operatorname{Im}(x_{02}^2 \bar{x}_{03}^2) = \operatorname{Im}(x_{12}) = 0$
35	$x_{20} = x_{11} = x_{02} = x_{30} = 0$	$\operatorname{Im}(x_{21} x_{03}) = \operatorname{Im}(x_{12}) = 0$

At the end of this section we shall state three remarks.

Remark 5.1 If we normalize the system $\{\psi_{2k}(x, y)\}$ so that

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \psi_{2k}(\cos\varphi, \sin\varphi) d\varphi = 1 \quad \forall k,$$

then $L_1 = L_2 = \dots = L_{m-1} = 0$, $L_m \neq 0$, implies that $V_1 = V_2 = \dots = V_{m-1} = 0$ and $V_m = L_m$.

Remark 5.2 Let $U(x, y)$ be a formal series that

$$\frac{dU}{dt} = \psi_{2l}(x, y) + \theta(x, y), \quad (5.5)$$

where $\theta(x, y) = O((x^2 + y^2)^l)$ as $x^2 + y^2 \rightarrow 0$ and $\psi_{2l}(x, y)$ be a homogeneous polynomial of degree $2l$, ($l \geq 2$), such that

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \psi_{2l}(\cos\varphi, \sin\varphi) d\varphi \neq 0 \quad (5.6)$$

then the origin $O(0, 0)$ is a focus for (5.1) (there exists such m , $1 \leq m \leq l-1$ that $V_1 = V_2 = \dots = V_{m-1} = 0$, $V_m \neq 0$). The asymptotic stability of the origin is determined by the sign of V_m .

Remark 5.3 If

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \psi_{2l}(\cos\varphi, \sin\varphi) d\varphi = 0 \quad (5.7)$$

and (5.6) are satisfied, we cannot in general conclude that $O(0, 0)$ is a focus. This is confirmed by the following two examples.

Example 5.1. The following system

$$\dot{x} = y(1 + x^2 + y^2), \quad \dot{y} = x(-1 + x^2 + y^2) \quad (5.8)$$

is symmetric with respect to the axis Ox and Oy . Hence, we have a centre at the origin. The derivative of the function $U(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 - x^4 - x^2y - xy^3 + y^4$ along trajectories of (5.8) is

$$\frac{dU}{dt} = x^4 - y^4 - x^6 - 4x^2y - 7x^4y^2 - 7x^2y^4 + 4xy^4 - y^6.$$

For $\psi_4(x, y) = x^4 - y^4$ (5.7) is satisfied.

Example 5.2. The following system of differential equations

$$\dot{x} = y(1 - 9x^2), \quad \dot{y} = (1 + y)(-x + 2x^2 + 2xy - y^2) \quad (5.9)$$

has a focus at the origin because $g_7 \neq 0$ ($g_3 = g_5 = 0$). The derivative of the function $U(x, y) = (3x^2 + 3y^2 + 6xy^2 + 2y^3 + 6x^4 - 3x^2y - 3x^2y^2 + 9xy^3)/3$ along trajectories of system (5.9) is

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dU}{dt} &= x^4 - y^4 - 2x^6 - 5x^4y + 25x^2y^2 + 5x^2y^3 - 9xy^4 - 2y^5 - 74x^4y \\ &+ 21x^4y^2 + 33x^2y^3 - 7x^2y^4 - 9xy^5. \end{aligned}$$

6 Construction of the function $\mu(x, y)$

Put $\bar{P}(x, y) = y + P(x, y)$, $\bar{Q}(x, y) = x + Q(x, y)$ (see (1.1)).

Dulac's criterion, about nonexistence of closed orbits in some neighbourhood of the origin, for system (1.1) can be formulated: If there exists a continuously differentiable function $\mu(x, y)$ in a simply connected neighbourhood G of the origin such that

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} [\mu(x, y)\bar{P}(x, y)] - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} [\mu(x, y)\bar{Q}(x, y)]$$

has constant sign and is not identically zero in any subregion, then system (1.1) has no closed orbits in G and this means that $O(0, 0)$ is a focus for (1.1). In this and next sections it will be shown that Dulac's criterion can be modified. The require that $\text{div}(\mu\bar{P}, \mu\bar{Q})$ has constant sign can be neglected in some cases.

Let $\psi_{2k}(x, y)$, $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$, be homogeneous polynomials with real coefficients satisfying condition (4.1).

Theorem 6.1 *There exist a function*

$$\mu(x, y) = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \mu_k(x, y), \quad (6.1)$$

where $\mu_k(x, y)$ are homogeneous polynomials of degree k , and such constants Λ_k , $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$, that

$$\frac{\partial(\mu\bar{P})}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial(\mu\bar{Q})}{\partial y} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \Lambda_k \psi_{2k}(x, y). \quad (6.2)$$

Proof. Let us pass to complex variables $w = x + iy$, $i^2 = -1$. Denote

$$\Psi_{2k}(\bar{w}, w) = \psi_{2k}\left(\frac{\bar{w}+w}{2}, \frac{i(\bar{w}-w)}{2}\right) = \sum_{j+l=2k} \psi_{jl}(\bar{w}^j w^l), \quad \bar{\psi}_j = \psi_j,$$

$$M_k(\bar{w}, w) = \mu_k\left(\frac{\bar{w}+w}{2}, \frac{i(\bar{w}-w)}{2}\right) = \sum_{j+l=k} m_{jl} \bar{w}^j w^l, \quad \bar{m}_{jl} = m_{lj},$$

$$M(\bar{w}, w) = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} M_k(\bar{w}^j w^l).$$

The identity (6.2) becomes (see (3.12))

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left[M'_k(\bar{w}) \left(\bar{w} + \sum_{r=2}^{\infty} \bar{v}_r \right) - M'_k(w) \left(w + \sum_{r=2}^{\infty} v_r \right) \right] + \\ (1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} M_k) \sum_{l=2}^{\infty} (\bar{v}'_l \bar{w} - v'_l w) = -i \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \Lambda_k \Psi_{2k}(\bar{w}, w).$$

Identifying the terms of degree k in \bar{w} and w , we obtain

$$(j-1)m_{jl} = 2^{-j-1-1} \left[(l+1)x_{j,l+1} - (j+1)\bar{x}_{j,l+1} \right] + \\ 2^{-j-1} \sum_{s=q-1}^{j+l-1} 2^{s+q-1} \left[(l+1)m_{ps}x_{j-s,l-q+1} - (j+1)m_{ps}\bar{x}_{j-s,l-q+1} \right], \quad (6.3)$$

if $j+l$ is odd, and

$$(j-1)m_{jl} = 2^{-j-1-1} \left[(l+1)x_{j,l+1} - (j+1)\bar{x}_{j,l+1} \right] + \\ 2^{-j-1} \sum_{s=q-1}^{j+l-1} 2^{s+q-1} \left[(l+1)m_{ps}x_{j-s,l-q+1} - (j+1)m_{ps}\bar{x}_{j-s,l-q+1} \right] - \\ i\Lambda_{\frac{j+l}{2}} \psi_j \quad (6.4)$$

if $j+l$ is even. If $j=l$, then (6.4) implies that

$$2^{-2l}(l+1)im\left[2l_{j+1} + \sum_{p+q=l}^{2l-1} 2^{p+q}m_{pp}2l_{-p}l_{-q+1}\right] - i\Lambda_l\psi_{2l} = 0.$$

From this it follows that

$$\Lambda_l = 2^{-2l}(l+1)\psi_{2l}^{-1}Im\left[2l_{j+1} + \sum_{p+q=l}^{2l-1} 2^{p+q}m_{pp}2l_{-p}l_{-q+1}\right] \quad (l=1, 2, 3, \dots). \quad (6.5)$$

Let us give to coefficients m_{ij} , $i=1, 2, 3, \dots$, arbitrary real values. The formulas (6.3), (6.5) and (6.4) allow us to find step by step all coefficients of function $M(\bar{w}, w)(\mu(x, y))$. So, from (6.3), for $j+l=1$, we find that

$$m_{10} = (z_{11} - 2z_{22})/4, \quad m_{01} = (z_{11} - 2z_{22})/4, \quad (6.6)$$

and from (6.5), for $l=1$,

$$\Lambda_1 = 2^{-2}\psi_{11}^{-1}Im(2x_{12} - z_{11}z_{02}). \quad (6.7)$$

Thus, formally the function $M(\bar{w}, w)$ is found up to a multiplier of the form $m_0\bar{w}^l w^l$ ($l=1, 2, 3, \dots$). More suitable is to assume that $m_0=0$, $l=1, 2, 3, \dots$.

The values $\Lambda_1, \Lambda_2, \Lambda_3, \dots$ will be called Λ values corresponding to the system of homogeneous polynomials $\{\psi_{2k}(x, y), k=1, 2, 3, \dots\}$.

7 Relations between Λ -values and focal values

Let (6.1) be a function satisfying (6.2) with $\Lambda_k=0$ for $k=\overline{1, l-1}$ and $\Lambda_l \neq 0$. We construct a polynomial

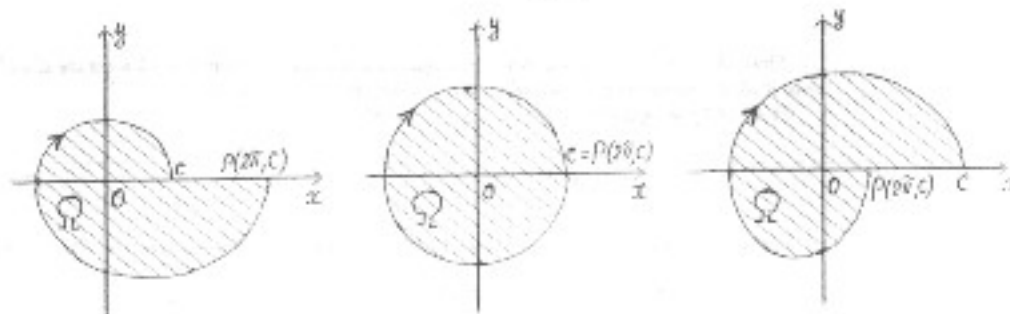
$$\bar{\mu}(x, y) = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{2l-1} \mu_k(x, y). \quad (7.1)$$

Then

$$\frac{\partial(\bar{\mu}\hat{P})}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial(\bar{\mu}\hat{Q})}{\partial y} = \Lambda_l\psi_{2l}(x, y) + \varphi_1(x, y), \quad (7.2)$$

where $\hat{P} = y + P(x, y)$, $\hat{Q} = x + Q(x, y)$ and $\varphi_1(x, y)$ is a holomorphic function in some neighbourhood of the origin such that $\varphi_1(x, y) = o((x^2 + y^2)^l)$ as $x^2 + y^2 \rightarrow 0$.

Let (2.3) be a solution of the equation (2.2) with initial condition $\rho(0, c) = c$, where c is a sufficiently small positive number. We denote by Γ the closed contour consisting of the x -axis intervals $[\rho(2\pi, c), c]$ for $\rho(2\pi, c) \leq c$ and $[c, \rho(2\pi, c)]$ for $\rho(2\pi, c) > c$, and the interval of trajectory $\{\rho(\varphi, c) \mid 0 < \varphi < 2\pi\}$. By Ω denote the closed region bounded by the contour Γ and which contains the origin (see Fig.).



By Green's formula

$$\int_{\Gamma} \bar{\mu}(\bar{Q}dx + \bar{P}dy) = \iint_{\Omega} \left[\frac{\partial(\bar{\mu}\bar{P})}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial(\bar{\mu}\bar{Q})}{\partial y} \right] dx dy. \quad (7.3)$$

Let us calculate the right-hand side of equality (7.3) (see (7.2) and Fig.)

$$\begin{aligned} \iint_{\Omega} \left[\frac{\partial(\bar{\mu}\bar{P})}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial(\bar{\mu}\bar{Q})}{\partial y} \right] dx dy &= \iint_{\Omega} [\Lambda_1 \psi_2(x, y) + \varphi_1(x, y)] dx dy = \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} d\varphi \int_0^{\rho(\varphi, c)} \rho [\Lambda_1 \rho^{2l} \psi_2(\cos \varphi, \sin \varphi) + \varphi_1(\rho \cos \varphi, \rho \sin \varphi)] \rho d\rho = \\ &= \pi(l+1)^{-1} \Lambda_1 \psi_2 c^{2l+2} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

Hence, by small $c > 0$, the right-hand side of (7.3) is not equal to zero (consequently, the left-hand side of (7.3) is also not equal to zero). Taking into account that integral $\int \bar{\mu}(\bar{Q}dx + \bar{P}dy)$ vanishes along each trajectory γ of system (1.1), we have $\rho(2\pi, c) \neq c$. Let $g_k = 0$ for $k \leq m-1$ and $g_m \neq 0$. Then

$$\rho(2\pi, c) = c + g_m c^m + g_{m+1} c^{m+1} + \dots$$

and (see Fig., (7.1), (1.2))

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Gamma} \bar{\mu}(\bar{Q}dx + \bar{P}dy) &= \int_{\rho(2\pi, c)}^c \bar{\mu}(x, 0) \bar{Q}(x, 0) dx = \\ &= \int_{\rho(2\pi, c)}^c \left[\left(1 + \sum_{k=1}^{2l-1} \mu_k(x, 0) \right) \left(x + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \varphi_k(x, 0) \right) \right] dx = \left(\frac{x^2}{2} + \dots \right) \Big|_{c+g_m c^m + \dots}^c = \\ &= -g_m c^{m+1} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

It follows that $m = 2l + 1$ and

$$g_{2l+1} = -\pi(l+1)^{-1} \Lambda_1 \psi_2. \quad (7.4)$$

Note, that if $\Lambda_k = 0$, $k = \overline{1, \infty}$, then $\mu(x, y)$ (see (6.1)) is an integrating factor for (1.1) and according to [15, page 30] the system (1.1) has a centre at the origin.

Thus, the system (1.1) has in some neighbourhood of the origin $O(0,0)$ a centre if and only if all Λ -values corresponding to the system $\{\psi_{2k}(x, y)\}$ vanish.

From (6.5) we get the following centre conditions:

$$Im(x_{i,j+1} + \sum_{p+q=i} 2^{p+q} m_{pq} x_{i-p, j-q+1}) = 0 \quad (i = 1, 2, 3, \dots) \quad (7.5)$$

For the cubic system (3.14) (equation (3.15)) the conditions (7.5) become (see (6.7), (6.6), (6.3), (6.4))

$$Im(2x_{12} - x_{21}x_{02}) = 0, \quad Im(2x_{20}m_{1-2, j+1} + 2x_{11}m_{1-1, j} + 2x_{02}m_{1, j-1} + x_{20}m_{1-3, j+1} + x_{21}m_{1-2, j} + x_{03}m_{1, j-2}) = 0 \quad (i = 2, 3, \dots),$$

where $m_{\beta\beta} = 0$ for every β ; $m_{\alpha\beta} = 0$ for $\alpha < 0$ or $\beta < 0$;

$$m_{10} = (x_{11} - 2\bar{x}_{02})/4, \quad m_{01} = \bar{m}_{10}, \quad m_{02} = \bar{m}_{20}, \\ m_{20} = (x_{20}\bar{x}_{11} - 2x_{20}x_{02} + x_{11}^2 - 5x_{11}\bar{x}_{02} + 6\bar{x}_{02}^2 + 2x_{21} - 6\bar{x}_{03})/32$$

and

$$m_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{8(\alpha-\beta)} \left[(\beta+1)(2m_{\alpha-2, \beta+1}x_{20} + 2m_{\alpha-1, \beta}x_{11} + 2m_{\alpha, \beta-1}x_{02} + m_{\alpha-3, \beta+1}x_{20} + m_{\alpha-2, \beta}x_{11} + m_{\alpha-1, \beta-1}x_{02} + m_{\alpha, \beta-2}x_{03}) - (\alpha+1)(2m_{\alpha+1, \beta-2}\bar{x}_{21} + 2m_{\alpha, \beta-1}\bar{x}_{11} + 2m_{\alpha-1, \beta}\bar{x}_{02} + m_{\alpha+1, \beta-3}\bar{x}_{20} + m_{\alpha, \beta-2}\bar{x}_{21} + m_{\alpha-1, \beta-1}\bar{x}_{11} + m_{\alpha-2, \beta}\bar{x}_{03}) \right]$$

for $\alpha + \beta = 2, 3, \dots$, $\alpha \geq 0$, $\beta \geq 0$, $\alpha \neq \beta$.

Remark 7.1 If we normalize the system $\{\psi_{2k}(x, y)\}$ so that

$$\frac{1}{2\pi(k+1)} \int_0^{2\pi} \psi_{2k}(c \cos \varphi, c \sin \varphi) d\varphi = 1 \quad \forall k,$$

then $\Lambda_1 = \Lambda_2 = \dots = \Lambda_{n-1}$, $\Lambda_n \neq 0$ implies $V_1 = V_2 = \dots = V_{n-1} = 0$ and $V_n = \Lambda_n$.

Remark 7.2 If for some formal series $\mu(x, y)$ we have

$$\frac{\partial(\mu\bar{P})}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial(\mu\bar{Q})}{\partial y} = \psi_2(x, y) + \theta(x, y), \quad (7.6)$$

where $\theta(x, y) = o((x^2 + y^2)^i)$ as $x^2 + y^2 \rightarrow 0$ and $\psi_2(x, y)$ is a polynomial of degree $2i$ ($i \geq 1$) for which (5.6) holds, then the origin is a focus for (5.14).

Remark 7.3 If $\psi_{2i}(x, y)$ satisfies (5.7), in general, we cannot draw a conclusion concerning the existence of a focus at the origin. So, for $\mu(x, y) = 1 - xp + 2y^2$ in the case of system (5.8) we have

$$\frac{\partial(\mu\bar{P})}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial(\mu\bar{Q})}{\partial y} = x^2 - y^2 - x^4 + 4x^3y - 6x^2y^2 + 12xy^3 - y^4,$$

and for $\mu(x, y) = 1 + 2x + y + 8x^2 + 5xy$ in the case of system (5.9) we get

$$\frac{\partial(\mu\bar{P})}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial(\mu\bar{Q})}{\partial y} = x^2 - y^2 + 22x^3 - 48x^2y - 33xy^2 - 4y^3 + 16x^4 - 236x^3y - 129x^2y^2 - 20xy^3.$$

For $\psi_2(x, y) = x^2 - y^2$ (5.7) is fulfilled.

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